

# **CY 2009 Out-of-Home Care Report: Executive Summary**

## **Statewide Summary**

This report includes information on children in an out-of-home care (OHC) placement during Calendar Year (CY) 2009. Data from this report was taken from the eWiSACWIS Out-of-Home Caseload Summary Report (r254 Caseload Counts) for CY 2009. Monthly and year-end counts have been produced at different times, for different purposes and/or by different means and may provide slightly different results. Thus, counts presented in this report may vary and differ from other published information.

## **Demographics of Children in OHC**

- As of December 31, 2009, a total of 6,568 children were in an OHC placement in Wisconsin. This represents a decrease of 756 children from December 31, 2008. A total of 1,056 fewer children were in an OHC placement at the end of CY 2009 than CY 2005.
- Children under the custody of the BMCW represented 37% of the total OHC population.
- The age of children statewide in OHC on December 31, 2009 was as follows:
  - 4 and under: 31%
  - 5-11: 27%
  - 12-15: 21%
  - 16-18: 21%
- Children 12-15 years old experienced the greatest decline of children in an OHC placement, compared to December 31, 2008 (253 fewer children).
- More males are in OHC (54%) than females (46%).
- White children represented 52% of all children in OHC care. African American children represented 40%.
- Statewide, 30% of children are placed with relatives. In Milwaukee County, 35% of children in OHC are placed with relatives. These figures are similar to those of 2008 when 31% of children, statewide, were placed with relatives and 39% of children, in Milwaukee county were placed with relatives.

## **Entry into OHC CY 2009**

- 4,639 children entered OHC statewide during CY 2009, a decrease of 590 children from CY 2008.
- 397 more males than females entered OHC.
- 58% were Caucasian children, 31% were African American children.

## **Discharge from OHC in CY 2009**

- 5,493 children and youth were discharged from OHC during CY 2009. This represents 37 more children discharged from OHC compared to CY 2008.
- Adoptions were finalized for 724 children. Due to data limitations, information below does not include these adoptions.
- Reunification was the most frequent discharge reason (64%).
- Males accounted for 55% of discharges from OHC.
- Children ages 16-18 accounted for the largest share of children discharged from OHC (30%).
- Caucasian children accounted for 60% of total discharges from OHC
- African American children accounted for 31% of total discharges from OHC.
- The Median Time to Discharge for children discharged in CY 2009 was 240 days.